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UM RULE OF LAW CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS ASIAN VIEWS

MISSOULA —

Asian legal scholars will present their views on the frequently used but hard-to-define term “rule of law” at a public conference Oct. 22-23 at The University of Montana. They will join UM professors and visiting scholars from Nepal, Uzbekistan and New York University.

The Rule of Law conference starts at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 22, in the University Center Theater with a panel discussion led by New York University Professor Jerry Cohen. U.S. Sen. Max Baucus will precede Cohen with an introduction on the importance of rule of law to global understanding. UM President George Dennison and Mansfield Center Executive Director Philip West also will give introductory talks. West will focus on understanding the historical context for views of rule of law.

On Monday, Oct. 23, the conference begins at 10 a.m. in the School of Law Castles Center with a welcome from law Dean Ed Eck and an introduction by David Aronofsky, UM legal counsel and international law professor. Other UM faculty members will introduce each of the Asian scholars.

Monday sessions will include “Independence of the Judiciary,” “International Organizations and Sovereignty,” “Concepts of Privacy,” “Judicial Review of Administrative

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Decisions,” “Civil Rights Vis-a-vis Administrative Decisions,” “Civil Rights and a Tiered Legal System,” “Economic Development in a Developing Country,” “Environment and the Rule of Law,” “Islamic Law Effects and Implications for Rule of Law in Asia,” and “The Importance of Information and Internet to Rule of Law.”

UM’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, School of Law and Mansfield Center for Pacific Affairs are co-sponsoring the Rule of Law Conference. The Pacific affairs center has coordinated rule-of-law conferences throughout Asia in the last year, and the Mansfield Foundation and Starr Foundation are funding the UM event. The State Bar of Montana will allow eight continuing education credits for those who attend the conference both days.

Asian scholars attending the conference will include:

- Albert Chen, dean of the law faculty at the University of Hong Kong.
- Tsung-fu Chen, assistant professor of law at National Taiwan University.
- George Fu, a former judge who now is in private practice in Shanghai, China.
- Joon-Hyung Hong, law professor at Seoul National University and administrative law judge on the Administrative Appeals Commission under South Korea’s prime minister.
- Truong Trong Nghia, vice president of the Foreign Trade and Investment Development Center of Vietnam’s Ho Chi Minh City.
- Yasuaki Onuma, professor at the University of Tokyo Graduate School of Law and Politics.
- Sang-Hyun Song, Seoul National University School of Law professor.
- Xixin Wang, Peking University School of Law professor.

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